



GERMAN-SPEAKING

(Germany, Switzerland, Austria)

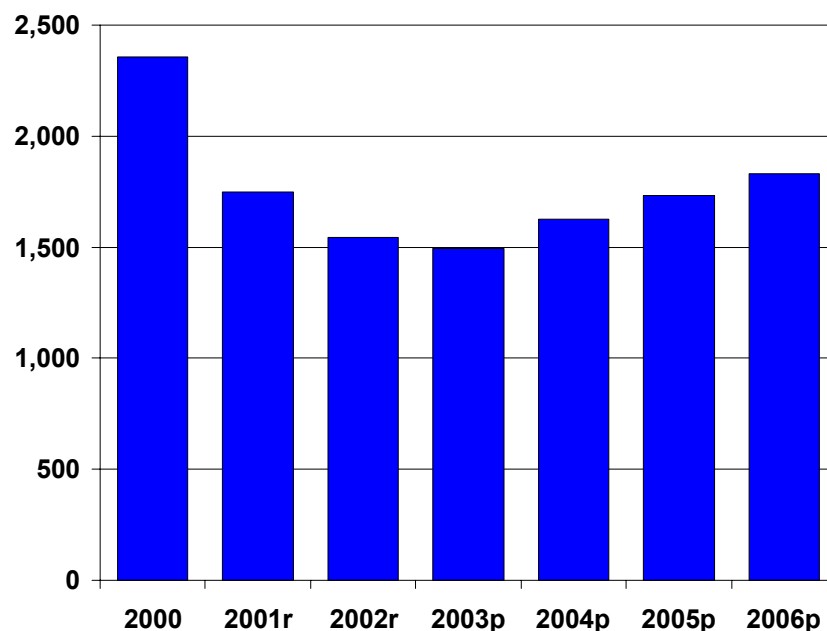
ECONOMIC NEWS

Growth remains very weak and unemployment is rising. Growth expectations for 2003 are diminishing as a higher Euro/Franc places pressures on exports.

TOURISM NEWS

Although Germans are the world's most active international travelers, recent travel to the U.S. has diminished due to economic and social considerations. While still a large market, arrivals from this region are not likely to begin recovery until next year. Arrivals will remain well below 2000 levels through 2006.

German-Speaking Travelers
to the US



SOURCE: US Dept of Commerce, ITA, Office of Travel & Tourism Industries